

Version 2005

October 2005



KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# Kingston Amateur News

## The Workshop of VE3RPF

### CD Disc Paddle Part I

**M**any of you are aware that I like to tinker and build much of my own gear. I find making my own gear educational, useful and fun. Recently I was in need of a small CW paddle for my QRP transceiver

and was looking on the net for prices. I was surprised at how expensive a simple paddle was going to cost me. After spending a few hours looking around, I thought about making one. I didn't have a specific plan but knew that I generally needed 2 pad-

and they tumbled to the floor. Within this pile were a bunch of useless AOL, Netscape discs that I have been meaning to throw out. It then dawned on me that maybe these discs weren't as useless as I initially thought. After all they are made of plastic that is fairly durable. With a

P.O. Box 1402 Kingston K7L 5C6  
<http://www.ve3kbr.com/>

**VE3KAR  
VE3KBR  
VE3UEL  
VE3KER  
146.94(-) MHz**



**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Repeater  
is now operational  
147.090(+) MHz**

#### Inside this issue:

The workshop of VE3RPF	1
2005 Club Executive & Committees	2
Upcoming Events	4
Minutes from Sept 7, 2005 Meeting	5
Agenda June 1, 2005	6

#### Special points of interest:

- *In the Hamshack*
- *Events*
- *Agenda*
- *Deadline for November Submissions  
October 21, 2005*

## Executive 2005

**President: VE3RPF Rob Parker**

**VPresident: VA3ZE Tom Lloyd**

**Secretary: VA3OL Bill Rumball**

**Treasurer: VE3SH Ferd Schijns**

**Past President: VE3VJF Roy Clarke**  
[ve3vjf@rac.ca](mailto:ve3vjf@rac.ca)

### 2005 Committee Chairs

#### Swap Net Manager:

VE3KFS Les Lindstrom  
634-4247  
[ve3kfs@rac.ca](mailto:ve3kfs@rac.ca)

**(Please call Les** if you have any items for sale or wanted)

#### Two Meter Net Manager:

VE3KFS Les Lindstrom  
634-4247 [ve3kfs@rac.ca](mailto:ve3kfs@rac.ca)

#### Newsletter Editor:

VA3KDH Kim Hay 377-6028  
[va3kdh@rac.ca](mailto:va3kdh@rac.ca)

### Repeater Committee:

VE3KFS Les Lindstrom  
634-4247  
[ve3kfs@rac.ca](mailto:ve3kfs@rac.ca)

VA3GST John Taylor  
353-7623  
[va3gst@sympatico.ca](mailto:va3gst@sympatico.ca)

VA3KGB Chip Chapman  
377-1359  
[va3kgb@rac.ca](mailto:va3kgb@rac.ca)

VE3JCQ John Wood 549-8915  
[ve3jcq@rac.ca](mailto:ve3jcq@rac.ca)



[Continued from Page 1]

of scissors, I was surprised to find out how easy the discs were to cut. I then applied a drop of crazy glue to the small pieces I cut and found that it is nearly impossible to separate the pieces once the glue set. This was a real plus and if I can make a paddle out of a CD disc, the cost would be nearly zero!

The next hurdle was to think of a way to make contacts for the paddles. I remembered a while back, I was successful in soldering wire right onto a metal nut and the

connection was not only mechanically strong but had excellent electrical properties. The soldering of a wire onto metal required a clean surface to solder on, a small propane torch, a little flux, wire and of course solder.

I took a trip to the local hardware store for materials which could be used for contacts. I noticed a rotating bin of brass nuts and bolts. Without having a clear cut plan on how I was going to make the paddle, I choose 2 bolts with an approximate diameter of 1/8" and their corresponding nuts. These will be used as paddle contacts as well as contact spacing adjusters. Next was to find a suitable center contact and choose a small hexagonal splice nut. These nuts are used to connect 2 continuous threaded rod pieces together. Again I picked up 2 that looked to have about a 1/8" diameter threaded hole. As you can tell, the components for this paddle

are not critical and improvisation is not only suggested but encourage. After all, this is home brew Ham Radio at its best.

### **A word about soldering onto metal**

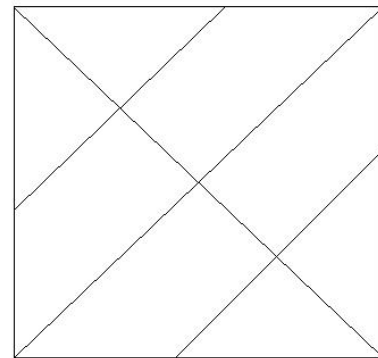
Before soldering onto metal, it is important to sand the metal a little so there is an uncontaminated surface to solder onto. Placing a little flux on the surface that you want to solder greatly helps in cleaning any left-over contaminants as well helps with heat transfer. If you don't use flux, you will have a difficult time in getting the solder to stick to the metal. Flux can be purchased at any electronic supplier or Canadian Tire. The heat from the propane torch is applied directly to the metal but not to the solder. The solder is simply allowed to melt onto the hot metal surface and in doing so, the solder will flow into the microscopic hills and valleys of the metal and therefore making a super strong joint.

### **Marking the CD disc for cutting**

It's important that everything be center and finding the center of a circle can be a challenge. By first drawing a square on a piece of paper with the width and height the same as the diameter of a CD disc 120mm, this task becomes quite easy. The diagram below shows a square with several lines drawn on it. The first lines you'll want to draw are the 2 lines that are drawn from corner to corner. Where they intersect will be the exact center of your circle. The other two lines are the width of the paddle. In my case the width is

### **Marking the CD disc for cutting**

It's important that everything be center and finding the center of a circle can be a challenge. By first drawing a square on a piece of paper with the width and height the same as the diameter of a CD disc 120mm, this task becomes quite easy. The diagram below shows a square with several lines drawn on it. The first lines you'll want to draw are the 2 lines that are drawn from corner to corner. Where they intersect will be the exact center of your circle. The other two lines are the width of the paddle. In my case the width is 40mm. Therefore you'll need to measure from the center line out 20mm and draw your lines parallel.



Square Template used for marking CD disc

There are 2 more lines to draw and I didn't want to clutter up the above diagram and kept it simple for clarity. The other 2 lines will be the actual paddles. It will be necessary to extend the lines you have drawn so you will know where to line up your ruler and transfer them onto the CD disc. The width of the paddles are 10mm and will be cut to length later.

### **Publishing Schedule of the KARC Newsletter:**

November Edition of KARC need by October 21  
December Edition of KARC need by November 25

# Upcoming Events

**Oct 5**, KARC Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. Smitty's Back Room

**November 2**, KARC Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. Smitty's Back Room \*\*Election Night\*\*

**December 7**, KARC Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. Smitty's Back Room

Every **Wednesday** at 7:30 p.m. KARC Net VE3KBR

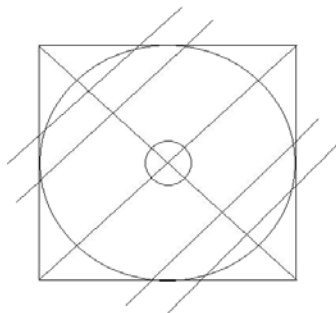
Every **Thursday** Nights at 7:30 pm on 28.250 Mhz— Slow Net— Net Controller Bill Rumble VA3OL

Every **Saturday** Breakfast at Smitty's  
Starts at 8:00 a.m. but come early and chat

**KARC** Web page designed and maintained by:  
VA3KGB, Chip

<http://www.ve3kbr.com/>

Join the KARC email list  
<http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/karc>



CD on top of square

Once all your marking is done, get a sharp pair of scissors and cut out all the parts.  
This is the end of part 1.

In part II we will discuss how to put everything together and test out your paddle.

Till next time, 73's  
Robert Parker VE3RPF

[continued from page 5]

## OTHER ITEMS:

Ron , VE3GO reminded everyone about the flea market on Saturday September 17th.

Rob, VE3RPF, asked if the club should look at donating money to the Louisiana disaster fund. Bill, VE3NFU moved that \$100 be donated to the Salvation Army in aid of the hurricane relief fund. VE3KC Seconded .. Passed

Tom, VE3UDO/VA3ZE reminded everyone that field day 2006 will be held at Don Gilroy's, VE3MNE in Hay Bay. Tom is looking for volunteers to help with the event and we need a generator.

Ron, VE3GO advised the members that Dave, VE3DAC will have new ni-cad AA batteries available at the flea market for \$1.25. These are brand new 700 mah batteries.

## ADJOURNMENT

Bill Rumball, VA3OL  
Secretary KARC

*Congratulations and Many Many Thanks to Ron Walsh and his team , for making the September KARC Fleamarket a great success.*

*\*\*It takes volunteers to make an organization work and bring the many events you enjoy come to fruition. It also takes time and energy that is given freely but sometimes this is not given a second thought, thank you all for your hard work and dedication , and I hope others will come forth and Volunteer, its a lot of fun and you might surprize yourself by learning something. \*\**

*Kim VA3 KD4*

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
HELD ON September 7, 2005 At SMITTY'S RESTAURANT, PRINCESS ST.

The meeting opened at 7PM by Rob, VE3RPF

1. All members introduced themselves
2. MINUTES of the June Meeting were presented.
3. TREASURERS REPORT was presented by Ferd, VE3SH.

Bank Balance                    \$4438.80

Moved by VE3SH, Ferd that the treasurers report be accepted. Seconded by George VE3GHK... carried

4. OLD BUSINESS

Bill, VE3NFU reported that Stew Watts has a tower and 2 meter antenna available; free if you take it down. Detail available from Bill

5: NEW BUSINESS

Tom, VA3ZE moved that an annual donation of \$300 be made to Highland Communications for the use of the repeater site, beginning with an immediate donation of \$200 in September and then an annual donation of \$300 in April or May of each year. This site is provided free of charge and we do not even pay for electricity. Even with an annual donation of \$300 we are paying way below the cost of a commercial site.

Seconded by Ron, VE3GO. Carried.

Chip, VA3KGB announced that email addresses are available at the club website. This offer is also open to the family of members. Details are available at <http://www.ve3kbr.com/webmail.html>

7: REPORTS:

REPEATER: Les, VE3KSF thanked George, VE3THK, Tom, VE3UDO/VA3ZE and Doug, VE3FFR who tracked down a 'stuck' transmitter on the repeater. Les asked that they provide a written report of how the errant transmitter was found so that people will have a reference guide should this happen in the future.

IRLP: Les, VE3KSF reported that there is something wrong with the IRLP. It appears that there maybe duplicate node numbers or something strange happening on the link. If you hear the link on with no one using it please use the off code to disconnect the link (73)

Website: Chip, VA3KGB reported that the website has been converted over to the new servers and is now running much faster and with added features. [<http://www.ve3kbr.com>] The next project is to move the 'swap shop' over to our own website.

RAC: (No report)

NET MANAGER VE3KFS reported that Ron, VE3GO and Bill, VE3NFU have been running the net over the summer. We are in need of net controllers.

KARC NEWSLETTER: No report.

50/50 Draw was won by Bruce VE3GJA (\$10.50)

[continued on page 4]

# KARC AGENDA

Meeting Date:  
October 5, 2005



1. Additions and/or deletions
2. Minutes of "Monthly Meeting Errors/Omissions"
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Old Business
5. 50/50 Draw
6. New Business
7. Reports
  - a) RAC
  - b) Net Manager - VE3KFS
  - c) KARC Newsletter – VA3 KDH- \* send your stories, or the newsletter gets smaller\*
  - d) Webpage - VA3KGB
  - e) Any other reports
8. Adjournment